

February 4, 1975

PRESIDENT: Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President, would amendment to the Chambers amendment be in order?

PRESIDENT: We can have an amendment to an amendment. It can be done once.

SENATOR GOODRICH: I would move to amend the Chambers amendment, striking the word "ten" and inserting "fifteen". The reason being that the rate of inflation last year, on a nationwide basis, was 12.2. For example, that figure is for the State of Nebraska, nobody knows, we don't have that kind of figures. But we assume, at least, that it is close to 12.2 which, Senator Chambers amendment would not allow for. So I'm suggesting the amendment and I'm moving the amendment to strike "ten" and insert "fifteen".

PRESIDENT: Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would propose that the amendment which Senator Chambers has proposed at ten percent, I would favor the fifteen percent, as Senator Goodrich has mentioned. The reason that I say this is because the cost of living index, as has been mentioned, has exceeded the ten percent mark and I don't feel that that's sufficient.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I rise to support the Goodrich amendment. At least it's a little more reasonable in terms of today's inflation and the consumer price index. We all know that that has been fluctuating anywhere between twelve to twenty percent nationally. We are not escaping it here in Nebraska.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have a question of Senator Chambers. On this fifteen percent, Senator Chambers, is that per year? If we had a contract that would be over a period of five years, then fifteen percent would be inadequate. If it'd be a three month contract, or a six month contract then maybe fifteen percent would be too high. That's the question.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The rate of fifteen percent was Senator Goodrich's, so maybe you'd like to ask him.

SENATOR DWORAK: Thank you. Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Would you restate the question. I wasn't listening.

SENATOR DWORAK: When we start setting a set percentage, like fifteen percent, and you have a contract that lasts for a five year period, then is fifteen percent adequate? If you have a contract lasting for a three month period maybe, then fifteen percent is excessive? It's not a problem we're getting into in setting a set percentage?